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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/011,029	11/13/2001	Chandrashekar R. Padala	42390P13128	7523

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BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
SEVENTH FLOOR
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030

EXAMINER

SWEARINGEN, JEFFREY R

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2145

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/26/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/011,029

Applicant(s)

PADALA, CHANDRASHEKAR R.

Examiner

Jeffrey R. Swearingen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 October 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION***Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114***

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/17/2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Redlich (US 6,591,306 B1).

4. In regard to claims 1, 8, Redlich disclosed:

a first plurality of peer devices, each of the first plurality of peer devices not being coupled to any other of the first plurality of peer devices; Figure 4, Figure 5, Figure 8

a first network server coupled to each of the first plurality of peer devices, the first network server to manage and maintain a first name-to-address resolution index that includes a list of addresses for each of the first plurality of peer devices, the first network server configured to respond to requests for a peer device addresses of the first plurality of peer devices by querying the first name-to-address index; column 7, lines 61-65, column 8, line 6

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a second plurality of peer devices, each of the second plurality of peer devices not being coupled to any other of the first and second pluralities of peer devices; Figure 8

a second network server coupled to each of the second plurality of peer devices and to the first network server, the second network server to manage and maintain a second name-to-address resolution index that includes a list of addresses for each of the second plurality of peer devices, the second network server configured to respond to a request for a peer device address of one of the first plurality of peer devices by querying the first network server such that the second network server responds to the request with the peer device address of the one of the first plurality of peer devices as though the request was for a peer device address of one of the second plurality of peer devices.

Column 8, lines 1-18

5. In regard to claims 2, 11, Redlich disclosed:

the first and second network servers are at equivalent hierarchical levels.

Column 8, lines 15-18

6. In regard to claims 3, 12, Redlich disclosed:

the first and second network servers have a common zone relationship.

Column 8, lines 11-15

7. In regard to claims 4, 13, 16, 20, Redlich disclosed:

the second network server requires access authorization from the first network server before a common zone is established. Access authorization is inherent to any network. Applicant has not stated the type of access authorization, so access authorization is broadly construed as the establishment of access through a connection.

8. In regard to claim 5, Redlich disclosed:

a third plurality of peer devices, each of the third plurality of peer devices not being coupled to any other of the first, second, and third pluralities of peer devices;

Figure 8

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a third network server coupled to each of the third plurality of peer devices and to the second network server, the third network server to manage and maintain a third name-to-address resolution index that includes a list of addresses for each of the third plurality of peer devices, the third network server configured to respond to the request for the peer device address of the one of the first plurality of peer devices by querying the second network server such that the third network server responds to the request with the peer device address of the one of the first plurality of peer devices as though the request was for a peer device address of one of the third plurality of peer devices.

Column 8, lines 1-18

9. In regard to claim 6, Redlich disclosed:

the second network server is also configured to query the third name-to-address index such that the second network server responds to a request for a peer device address of one of the third plurality of peer devices as though the request was for a peer device address of one of the second plurality of peer devices. Column 8, lines 1-18

10. In regard to claim 7, Redlich disclosed:

the first network server is also configured to query the second name-to-address index such that the first network server responds to a request for a peer device address of one of the second plurality of peer devices as though the request was for a peer device address of one of the first plurality of peer devices. Column 8, lines 1-18

11. In regard to claim 9, Redlich disclosed:

an output interface to couple the processing unit to the at least one peer on the first network. Figure 8

12. In regard to claims 10, 15, 19 Redlich disclosed:

the processing unit responds to a name-to-address resolution request by sending the requested address if it is found, and sending an address not found reply if the address is not found. Column 9, lines 13-24

13. Claims 14, 18 have the same limitations as claims 1-3..

14. In regard to claims 17, 21, Redlich disclosed:

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there is no common zone relationship between the first server and the second server, and derivative common zone name-to-address resolution is selectively permitted by a server having common zone relationships with the first server and the second server. Column 8, lines 11-15

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

15. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

16. Claims 1, 5, 8, 11, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

17. In these claims, Applicant claims a network with a plurality of peer devices, not being coupled to any other peer devices. Applicant further claims a server coupled to each of the peer devices. The presence of a server coupling with multiple peer devices allows those peer devices to also be coupled. Applicant must clarify if this is the case, or look at alternate wording such as "directly coupled" to overcome this rejection, as the current claim language allows for indirect coupling of the peer devices.

Response to Arguments

18. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

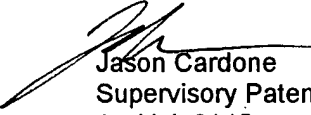
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey R. Swearingen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3921. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on 571-272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Jason Cardone
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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